THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) No. Sir. (b) and (c) Does not arise.

National Heritage Sites Commission

9. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry proposes to form a National Heritage Sites Commission to preserve the heritage sites in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the mandate proposed to be given to the Commission?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Culture proposes to constitute a National Heritage Sites Commission.

As the present legal and institutional framework is not adequate to address the documentation, inventorisation and conservation of built heritage in its broadest outline, it is proposed to constitute a Heritage Sites Commission. The Commission would lay down broad policy guidelines and take steps to ensure that such guidelines are observed.

(c) The mandate of the proposed Heritage Sites Commission is being worked out. It is expected that the Commission would:

— tender advice to Govt, on heritage matters.

— frame guidelines in the matter of conservation of heritage monuments and sites.

— can study or cause to study in important matters regarding conservation of heritage and submit reports to the Government.

— suggest appropriate amendments to the existing heritage legislations.

Central Public Sector Undertakings

10. PROF. M.M.AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state: